

Remarks

Reconsideration of the above-captioned application is respectfully requested. The drawings have been objected to for not showing the means for anchoring the forward section, the outer flap draped over the front wall, the forward screen, and the cab access panel. Figure 2 has been red-lined to show the forward section, the forward screen and the cab access panel (elements 41, 43, and 45, respectively). With respect to the means for anchoring the forward section and the outer flap draped over the front wall, these features are shown in Figure 4 which illustrates how the tent assembly is connected to the pickup truck, see page 8, line 21 - page 8, line 18. Specifically, an exemplary non-limiting means for anchoring the forward section is element 66 and the outer flap is element 80. Applicant further points out that at page 9, lines 15 - 18, the specification states that, "Furthermore, it is to be understood that the front section of the tent assembly includes an inner and outer side flap configuration, similar to that described above, that allows the front section of the tent assembly 26 to be attached to the front wall 22 of the cargo box 14, e.g., by restraint lines or snap fasteners."

The disclosure has been objected to because of several informalities. The majority of these informalities have been corrected above, except Applicant has not replaced each instance of the word "plural" with "a plurality of." Applicant has attached a copy of the definition of "plural" and "plurality" taken from Webster's Third New International Dictionary. It is readily apparent the using the adjective "plural" to modify a noun is equivalent to stating a "plurality" of that noun. Moreover, Applicant has attached the results of a search of the U.S. Patent database for the word "plural" which shows that there are 39283 patents in the database that include the word "plural." Also, Applicant has attached a copy of the first patent on that list, Number

6,367,049, in which the phrase "plural words" (i.e., the word "plural" preceding a plural noun) appears. Thus, it is readily apparent that using the word "plural" to modify a noun is an accepted practice with the U.S.P.T.O.

Claims 2 - 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, and 16 - 29 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten. Claims 1 - 13 and 16 - 19 have been rejected as being indefinite. Claims 1, 5, 6, 11, 12, and 30 - 31 have been rejected as being anticipated by Harrison. Claim 8 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Harrison in view Mahan. Claim 14 and 15 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Oliveira. Claim 32 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Harrison in view of Oliveira. And, Claim 33 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Harrison.

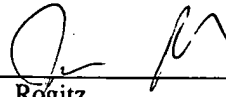
To overcome the Examiner's rejections, Claims 2, 7, 9, 10, 13, 15, 24, 27, 30 - 33 have been cancelled and allowable subject matter therein added to other claims. Specifically, Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of Claim 2. Claim 7 has been amended to combine the allowable subject matter recited therein with subject matter from Claim 1. Claim 9 has been amended to combine the allowable subject matter recited therein with subject matter from Claim 1. Claim 11 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of Claim 13. Claim 14 has been amended to include the allowable limitations of Claim 16.

With the above analysis in mind, it would seem that the instant application be allowed. The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for any reason which would advance the instant application to allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



John L. Rogitz
Registration No. 33,549
Attorney of Record
750 B Street, Suite 3120
San Diego, CA 92101
Telephone: (619) 338-8075

JLR:jg